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David Says Nixon Will Never Resign

Washington

President Nixon will not resign even if impeached by the House of Representatives, his son-in-law David Eisenhower said yesterday.

Speaking with reporters, Eisenhower said: "I don't think there is the faintest possibility of him resigning under any circumstance, and impeachment is just not going to happen."

"This decision was made a long time ago — that he's never going to resign," Eisenhower said, adding that the House has no "solid grounds" on which to approve a bill of impeachment.

But he said, "It would make no difference" if it did approve one, the President would not quit.

It was the first indication from any White House intimate that Mr. Nixon has already made up his mind to go through a Senate trial on impeachment brought by the House rather than step down and avoid a possibly divisive influence on the public.

He said that Mr. Nixon assumes the 18½-minute erasure in a crucial June 20, 1972, taped conversation between the President and former chief of staff H. R. Haldeman was "an accident."

Eisenhower said that Mr. Nixon might have a "slight sense of remorse over the tragedy that has befallen individuals" as a result of Watergate, "but it's not something he lets obsess him or drive him. It hasn't changed him."

United Press